

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 IGA-02 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 L-03 OMB-01 H-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 OPIC-12

AGR-20 CIEP-02 IO-13 RSR-01 /166 W

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R 131410Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8877

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : EAID PFOR US GV XA

SUBJECT : NEWSOM/TOURE MEETING RE AID AND RELATED
POLITICAL CONTROVERSIES JULY 12

REF: CONAKRY 1127

1. SUMMARY: IN TWO HOUR 45 MINUTE MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM AND AMBASSADOR AFTERNOON OF JULY 12, WITH MEMBERS OF POLITICAL BUREAU PRESENT, TOURE EXPLAINED HIS PHILOSOPHY OF DEVELOPMENT, SUMMARIZED PAST U.S. AID AND "LESSONS LEARNED", AND PRESENTED REQUEST FOR SEVERAL AID PROJECTS HE HOPED COULD BE INCLUDED IN GUINEAN FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN. IN RESPONSE TO ASST SECRETARY'S EXPRESSION OF USG CONCERN THAT INCORRECT CHARGES THAT TWO FORMER GUINEAN AMBASSADORS HAD COLLABORATED WITH U.S. AGAINST TOURE HAVE NEVER BEEN WITHDRAWN, TOURE REITERATED EARLIER POSITION THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS NEVER ACCUSED OF TRYING TO SUBVERT HIM, BUT THERE INCONTESTABLE PROOF THAT CIA, WITHOUT CONSENT OF USG, HAD RECRUITED TWO AMBASSADORS. RESPONDING TO TOURE'S DISCUSSION OF AID AND DEVELOPMENT, NEWSOM SAID LIST OF PROPOSED PROJECTS COULD BE REVIEWED, AND SUMMARIZED CURRENT SITUATION RE PL-480.

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DESPITE DIRECT CONFRONTATION ON QUESTION OF IMPRISONED AMBASSADORS, MEETING SERVED TO CLEAR AIR AND SET STAGE FOR EVALUATION OF GUINEAN AID REQUESTS IN LIGHT U.S. CAPABIL-

ITIES AND PRIORITY WE WISH TO GIVE TO GUINEA. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO NEWSOM EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR WELL-ORGANIZED VISITS TO BOKE, FRIA, AND THREE CONAKRY INDUSTRIAL SITES THAT MORNING, TOURE SAID FIRST TWO PROJECTS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT U.S. SUPPORT. AFTER DISCUSSION OF GUINEAN PHILOSOPHY OF DEVELOPMENT (MUST BE ORIENTED TOWARD INDIVIDUAL HUMAN BEINGS, NOT JUST GOVERNMENT; MUST BE BUILT ON NEW HOMOGENEOUS SOCIETY), AND DISCUSSION OF RELATED POLITICAL CONTROVERSIES (DISCUSSED BELOW), TOURE SUMMARIZED U.S. AID OF PAST TEN YEARS, AIDNOWLEDGING THAT TOTAL OF PL-480 COMMODITIES, FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND COUNTERPART FUNDS WAS TRULY SUBSTANTIAL. TOURE SAID AID COULD HAVE BEEN MORE EFFECTIVELY USED IF ANTI-REGIME GUINEAN OFFICIALS HAD NOT SABOTAGED HIS FISCAL POLICIES AND CAUSED INFLATION, AND IF AID HAD BEEN DIRECTLY GEARED TO PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. ALSO CITED PROBLEM OF GUINEANS WHO STUDY ABROAD AND DO NOT RETURN.

3. TOURE THEN PRESENTED LIST OF PROJECTS, MAINLY IN AGRICULTURAL FIELD WITH BALANCE IN EDUCATION OF HEALTH, WHICH HE HOPED COULD BE INCLUDED IN GUINEAN FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN NOW IN PREPARATION. (WILL FORWARD LIST SEPARATELY.) SAID HOPED MIXED COMMISSION COULD STUDY PROJECTS IN DETAIL. TOURE ALSO REFERRED TO COUNTERPART SYLIS WHICH HE HOPED AVAILABLE FOR PARTS OF PROJECTS.

4. NEWSOM RESPONDED BY SAYING WE HAD LIMITATIONS, INCLUDING ABSENCE CURRENT AID LEGISLATION BUT LIST WOULD BE STUDIED TO ALLOW MOST EFFECTIVE RESPONSE POSSIBLE. ASST SECRETARY REITERATED U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFICULT PERIODS IN GUINEAN HISTORY, PARTICULARLY PRECIPITOUS FRENCH WITHDRAWAL AND 1970 INVASION. SPEAKING AS FRIEND OF GUINEA, NEWSOM EMPHASIZED HE NOT IN GUINEA TO DISCUSS INTERNAL QUESTIONS, BUT FALSE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST U.S. SUCH AS THOSE AGAINST FORMER GUINEAN AMBASSADORS TO WASHINGTON BURT PROGRESS TOWARD GOOD RELATIONS DESIRED BY ALL. U.S. HAD NOT GIVEN \$54 MILLION IN AID (FIGURE CITED BY PRESIDENT EARLIER) TO SUBVERT HIM. NEWSOM SUGGESTED
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THAT IN FUTURE POTENTIAL STRAINS ON RELATIONS WHICH COME TO ATTENTION EITHER SIDE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED QUICKLY AND OPENLY, TO WHICH TOURE NODDED AGREEMENT.

5. AFTER EXPLAINING THAT ENEMIES OF U.S. IN AFRICA OFTEN ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, NEWSOM PRESENTED COPY OF DOCUMENTARY STUDY OF FORGERIES IN AFRICA.

6. PASSING TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN AREA OF COOPERATION, ASST SECRETARY EMPHASIZED U.S. CONCERN THAT GUINEA AND ALL OTHER COUNTRIES BECOME AGRICULTURALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT. SUMMARIZED

CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN MAINTAINING PL-480 AT PREVIOUS LEVELS, DUE TO DIMINISHED U.S. SURPLUSES, INCREASING COST OF COMMODITIES, REDUCED BUDGET FOR PL-480 AND ALL FOREIGN AID. NEWSOM CONCLUDED HE STILL OPTIMISTIC THAT SOME PL-480 AID WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN FUTURE, PARTICULARLY FOR CURRENT DROUGHT EMERGENCY. NOTING THAT GUINEAN REQUEST INCLUDED CONSTRUCTION PROPOSALS, NEWSOM SAID BUILDINGS FOR DEVELOPMENT NOT ALWAYS SUCCESSFUL IF HUMAN RESOURCES NOT AVAILABLE TO FULLY UTILIZE FACILITIES. OUR CURRENT EMPHASIS, THEREFORE, ON HUMAN ASPECTS. TOURE INTERRUPTED TO GIVE STATISTICS ON NUMBER OF GUINEANS NOW TRAINING AT HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

7. NEWSOM CITED U.S. INTEREST IN MULTILATERAL AID, TO WHICH TOURE NODDED ASSENT, AND NEWSOM THEN SUMMARIZED CURRENT CAPABILITIES UNDER EXISTING AID PROGRAMS SUCH AS WARDA, MALI LIVESTOCK PROGRAM, EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF, AMBASSADOR'S COUNTER-PART FUNDS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PRIVATE SECTOR.

8. FINAL HOUR OF MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO TOURE'S IMPASSIONED DEFENSE OF THE "PEOPLE'S COURTS" THAT HAD JUDGED THE SELF-ACCUSED PLOTTERS IN EARLY 1971. TOURE DIGRESSED IN TO AREAS NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH U.S. OFFICIALS, NOTABLY HIS CLAIM THAT HE HAD REJECTED A PAPAL NOMINATION OF AN ARCH-BISHOP IN FAVOR OF MONSIEUR TCHIDOMBO, WHO LATER TURNED ON TOURE AND HAS BEEN IMPRISONED EVER SINCE. TOURE OFFERED ONE POSSIBLE INSIGHT INTO IMPRISONMENT OF KARIM BANGOURA, SAYING THAT HIS DECORATION OF BANGOURA SOME YEARS AGO WAS UNFORGETTABLE OCCASION ON WHICH GUINEAN PEOPLE DISPLAYED PUBLIC DISAPPROVAL OF ACT BY TOURE.

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9. THROUGHOUT THIS MEETING AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S VISIT, TOURE AND OTHER SENIOR GUINEAN OFFICIALS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THEY DEEPLY APPRECIATE NEWSOM VISIT AND HIS EFFORTS TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES WHICH ARISE BETWEEN GUINEA AND U.S. BECAUSE OF DIFFERING POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES. GUINEANS INSIST THEY AWARE USG (WHICH THEY BELIEVE DOES NOT INCLUDE OR AT LEAST FULLY CONTROL CIA) HAS NOT SOUGHT TO OVERTHROW GUINEAN REGIME. TOURE CITED SOVIETS AS BEING AT THE BOTTOM OF ONE COUP ATTEMPT, FOR WHICH AMBASSADOR AND SEVERAL COLLABORATORS WERE EXPELLED.

10. TOURE STILL PRESSED WITH APPARENT SINCERITY HIS CASE 73 CONAKRY 1128 ACCUSATIONS AGAINST U.S. SUCH AS THOSE AGAINST FORMER GUINEAN AMBASSADORS TO WASHINGTON PROGRESS TOWARD GOOD RELATIONS DESIRED BY ALL. U.S. HAD NOT GIVEN \$54 MILLION IN AID (FIGURE CITED BY PRESIDENT EARLIER) TO SUBVERT HIM. NEWSOM SUGGESTED
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FOR WHICH AMBASSADOR AND SEVERAL COLLABORATORS WERE EXPELLED.

10. TOURE STILL PRESSED WITH APPARENT SINCERITY HIS CASE FOR
THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE AND DIGNITY FOR AFRICA, AND
HIS REQUESTS FOR AID AND CONTINUED RELATIONS MUST BE VIEWED IN
THE CONTEXT OF HIS IMPORTANCE FOR AFRICA. HE IS LESS APPEALING
AND CONVINCING WHEN DISCUSSING INTERNAL THREATS TO HIS REGIME,
AND HE SEEMS TO WANT NO ONE IN HIS ENTOURAGE OR AMONG HIS
ALLIES TO SEPARATE HIS PERSON FROM THE GUINEAN AND AFRICAN
SITUATION.

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